

### **How would a shut down affect veterans' pensions?**

According to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, disabled veterans in receipt of disability compensation or pension checks should continue to receive those payments. Veterans with new or pending claims may be impacted with a delay in their claims until funding for claims processors is appropriated.

### **How would a shut down affect survivor benefits?**

According to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, survivor benefits are similar to disability/pension benefits paid to veterans. Thus, survivors currently in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation or Survivors' Pension will continue to receive those payments. New claims may be delayed. The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs is attempting to confirm this with the Administration.

### **How would a shut down affect veterans' educational assistance?**

The House Committee on Veterans Affairs attempted but was unable to get guidance from the Administration in an April 5th hearing. A bipartisan letter has been sent to the VA Secretary requesting a briefing on a shutdown contingency plan.

### **How would a shut down affect veterans disability compensation and claims processing?**

According to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, disability compensation would be the same for survivor, education, and pension benefits. Those checks would go out, but no new claims would be adjudicated.

### **How would a shut down affect veterans housing?**

The House Committee on Veterans Affairs attempted but was unable to get guidance from the Administration in an April 5th hearing. A bipartisan letter has been sent to the VA Secretary requesting a briefing on a shutdown contingency plan.

### **How would a shut down affect veterans Health services – through VA hospitals, reimbursement for other services?**

According to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, the VA received a full year appropriation to operate its health care system for all of FY 2011. Therefore, veterans' medical care would not be affected. Hospitals, clinics, Vet Centers, and homeless domiciliaries would remain open.

### **What would happen to VA hospitals and clinics? Would they still operate and could veterans receive treatment, including pharmacological? If there was an emergency and the VA Offices were closed would the VA pay the bill if a Veteran went to a civilian hospital for treatment?**

According to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, medical care is already fully funded is not an issue; however additional information is not being released by the Administration. The committee sent a bipartisan letter to the VA Secretary requesting a briefing tomorrow on shutdown contingency planning.

